of more funds for Supervised Short course Chemotherapy and achievement of higher cure rate through more effective health education and strengthening of logistics and supervision. A proposal has been made for World Bank Assistance to augment the Programmes along these lines.

Family Welfare Services to control population

1698. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased state:

(a) whether it is a fact that free Family Welfare services are available in the various states at the rural or urban level to control rapid population growth;

(b) if so, the details thereof in this respect;

(c) whether Government have formulated any long-term policy to control the population in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Free Family Welfare services including sterilisation, IUD insertion, supply of condoms and oral pills, Immunization and Maternal & Child Health Care services are available through a network of health care delivery institutions throughout the country.

(c) and (d) A result Oriented Action Plan has been formulated in consultation with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Major programme initiatives include the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme, the Social Safety Net Scheme in 90 identified poor performing districts, schemes for involving Non-Governmental Organisations, implementation of Area Projects, training for skill development of para medical and medical staff and traditional birth attendants. A Group of Experts has been constituted to prepare a draft of the National Population Policy taking into account the recommendations of the NDC Committee on Population.

Committee of NDC for population control

1699. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased state:

(a) whether a Committee of National Development Council was constituted to formulate future policies and plan of action for population control;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, what are the major recommendations of the Committee; and

(e) what action has been taken on these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Composition of the Committee and its terms of reference are given in the enclosed Statement I & II. (*see* below)

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Committee has made wide ranging recommendations, inter alia, on strengthening of infrastructure for improving quality of services, training, multi sectoral coordination, community involvement, decentralised planning etc.

(e) The recommendations are under consideration.

Statement I

Composition of Committee of the N.D.C. on population

1.	Shri K. Karunakaran, Chief Minister, Kerala	Chairman
2.	Smt. Margaret Alva, Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	Member
3.	Shri Sunder Lal Patwa Then Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh	Member